

I object to the NAB's petition 04-160 and here's why. I'm not well served by regular broadcast programming.

I live in the Detroit area and I'm a classical music fan. As you may know, Detroit must have two dozen or so FM stations available yet not one of them broadcasts classical music (except 2 hours on Sundays on the PBS station WDET). WQRS was the last commercial station to offer extensive classical programming and it was sold several years ago and changed programming to virtually the same content as is available on the other stations. In every major market in the US, there is usually classical programming often on commercial stations but not Detroit.

Another reason I'm not well served. I purchased a radio in my car with the "RDS" feature. As far as I can tell, broadcasters have not invested in this to any large degree. The system promised a lot but so far all I've seen is the station's call letters and some pretty lame scrolling self promotions. What happened to the promised instant traffic and weather?

Finally, after years of frustration with the broadcasters in Detroit, Satellite radio became available. It is in a word, wonderful! I'm finally being well served by a company that keeps its promises. I was happy with the variety and the quality, then XM began to offer instant traffic and weather. That service is fantastic. No more haphazard searches across the radio dial looking for traffic info or having to wait until the "8's" on the AM station. Just hit my preset and viola! traffic and weather instantly.

I understand that the broadcasters want to restrict XM from offering this service and they want to use the force of the government to limit competition.

I say let them compete. Maybe that means actually having to respond to the market by investing in RDS for example or trying to serve broader musical and programming interests.